



ANNUAL REPORT ON PERFORMANCE

**FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022
(01 JULY 2021 – 30 JUNE 2022)**

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Regional Integration and International Trade**

THE ANNUAL REPORT 2021 – 22

Introduction

The Annual Report 2021-2022 on Performance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration & International Trade has been prepared in accordance with the statutory requirements of Section 4B of the Finance & Audit Act.

The Report provides information on the Ministry, its financial performance and achievements, the targets set out relative to the resources approved by the National Assembly, as well as the strategic direction to be adopted for the next three years.

The information provided in this Annual Report is intended for our stakeholders and the public at large.

GUIDE TO THE REPORT

This Report is divided into four parts:

Part I: About the Ministry

Part I outlines the vision, mission, role and functions of the Ministry. It gives a brief overview of its organizational structure including a Gender Statement demonstrating our approach to tackle gender issues.

Part II: Main Achievements

Part II describes the achievements which includes seven main areas and a review of how the Ministry has performed during the previous year, including the Key Performance Indicators. This section also provides the actions and system put in place in relation to risk management, citizen-oriented initiatives and good governance.

Part III: Financial Performance

Part III provides the financial highlights for the previous year and includes statements of revenue and expenditure.

Part IV: Way Forward

Part IV provides the strategic directions to realise the Office's vision, objectives and desired outcomes.

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Statement of the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade

It is with great pleasure that I present the Annual Report for the Financial Year ending June 2022 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade.

The financial year 2021-2022 continued to be a particularly challenging one with far reaching economic consequences of COVID 19 on the country. Mauritius, as a Small Island Developing State, was further affected by the disruption in the global supply chain, rising petroleum and commodities prices as well as travel restrictions around the world.

My Ministry spared no efforts in taking diplomatic initiatives aimed at mitigating these adverse effects. The Ministry stepped up its engagement with friendly countries, international and regional organisations to secure COVID 19 vaccines and ensure a constant supply of essential commodities. The successful acquisition of COVID19 vaccines including Pfizer, Moderna and Oxford AstraZeneca vaccines contributed significantly in the success of the national vaccination campaign forming the basis for the relaunch of the tourism sector and the economy in general.

With regard to market access, my Ministry has continued to take advantage of the opportunities arising from existing trade agreements namely the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Partnership Agreement (CECPA) with India, the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with China, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), as well as the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the United Kingdom.

My Ministry is further consolidating our relationship with Africa through the AfCFTA Agreement. Mauritius participated in the various meetings and conferences organised by the AU Commission and its agencies. We are facilitating the implementation of the Agenda 2063, the blue print for the socio-economic transformation of Africa – *Building The Africa We Want*. It is a matter of pride for Mauritius to be selected as one of the pilot countries for the "AfCFTA Guided Trade Initiative", which covers both goods and services. Moreover, with the coming into force of the Protocol on Trade in Services, Mauritius would now have market access in 10 SADC Member States on a transparent, legally secure and predictable basis in six priority sectors namely, Financial Services, Communications, Tourism, Transport, Construction and Energy-related services.

Despite the COVID 19 challenges, my Ministry continued to defend the interests of Mauritius in the various international meetings of the United Nations, OACPS, Commonwealth, and la Francophonie by *inter alia* highlighting our inherent vulnerabilities. My Ministry also ensured that our priorities including maritime security remained high on the regional agenda of the SADC, COMESA, IOC, and IORA.

Furthermore, with a view to increasing our footprint on the regional and international front, the Ministry lobbied successfully for the election of several Mauritian candidates to serve on international and regional bodies. In the same stride, it was an honour for Mauritius to be invited as a Guest Country during India's chairmanship of the G-20.

The Ministry's continued engagement at the bilateral and regional fronts has led to the finalisation of a number of Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) and Agreements, such as the General Framework Agreement with Tanzania, and the extension of the Protocol to Sustainable Fisheries with the European Union.

I would like to conclude by expressing my gratitude to all the staff at the Ministry and in our Missions overseas for their continued support and commitment during these dire times.

The Honourable Alan Ganoo
*Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Regional Integration and International Trade*

Accounting Officer's Statement

Despite the unprecedented challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade continued to play a key role in supporting the strategy of the Government.

The Ministry continued in supporting Government's effort in its fight against the pandemic and mitigating its effects by securing safe vaccines and medical supplies. At the same time, using its network of embassies and consulates abroad, this Ministry has worked towards reconnecting Mauritius to the rest of the world. We thus facilitated the safe repatriation of our nationals stranded abroad following travel restrictions imposed in some countries and the Russia-Ukraine war.

Throughout the period under review, the Ministry has worked towards strengthening bilateral relations with our traditional partners while developing new ties with other countries. We facilitated several high-level visits from partner countries including India, France, UK, Saudi Arabia, China, Rwanda, and Kenya. The commemoration of the establishment of diplomatic relations with China, India and Pakistan respectively provided further opportunities to deepen cooperation and explore new avenues of collaboration in support of the Country's development needs.

The Ministry pursued its engagement with international and regional organisations such as, the UN agencies, the African Union, the Indian Ocean Rim Association and the Indian Ocean Commission to secure the disbursement of financial and technical assistance for the timely implementation of crucial projects for Mauritius, such as the development of a Hi-Tech Pharmaceutical and Biotechnology Industry.

Our foreign policy aimed at fostering current and new partnerships thus broadening the Country's economic prospects including by maximizing opportunities offered under the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement between Mauritius and India, the Free Trade Agreement between Mauritius and China, the SADC Protocol on Trade and Services, and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

It is a matter of pride that Mauritius is among the 17 countries that have submitted their final schedules of commitments in the five priority sectors, which covers Business services, Financial services, Communication Services, Tourism services and Transport services, thus indicating the Government's endeavour for the country to achieve sustainable economic growth.

Likewise, the successful completion of the Country's 5th Trade Policy Review and the submission of the first Country report on the status of the implementation of the African Union Agenda 2063 for period 2013-2020, as well as a progress report on the implementation of the plan of action of the African Peer Review Mechanism are also clear indications of this Ministry's commitment towards upholding transparency, good governance and obligations taken under Multilateral Trade Agreements.

Following the entry into force of the Industrial Property Act 2019 on 31 January 2022, measures have been initiated for the setting up of the Intellectual Property Council and for Mauritius to join three Treaties administered by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), namely the Patent Cooperation Treaty, the Madrid Protocol and The Hague Agreement for the international registration of patents, trademarks and industrial designs respectively. The implementation of these instruments will certainly contribute towards boosting innovation and R&D in traditional and innovative sectors.


Using its diplomatic influence and lobbying strategies, the Ministry has secured the election of Mauritian nationals on some key international and regional bodies including the African Commission on Human and

People's Rights, the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption, the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and Executive Council of the World Tourism Council.

In line with the Government's overall objective of optimising its scarce resources, I am also pleased to inform of the completion of the Mauritius Chancery building in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

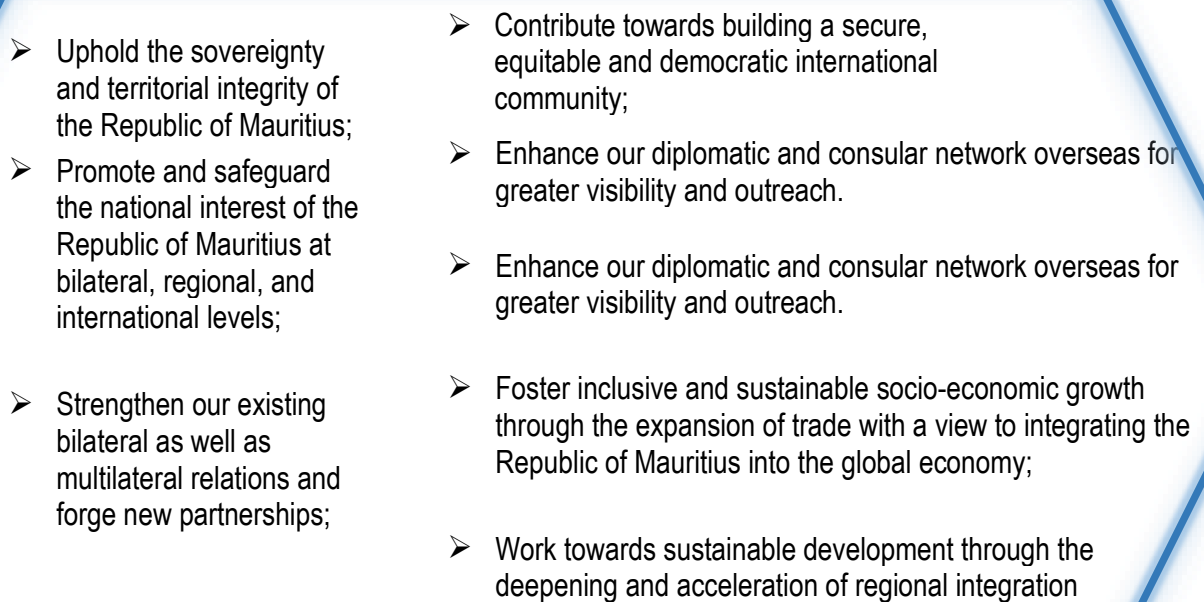
I wish to seize this opportunity to commend the staff at the Ministry and all our Missions abroad for their hard work, dedication and commitment in furthering the foreign policy of Mauritius.

Ambassador H. Dillum
Secretary for Foreign Affairs

VISION

Prosperous and sustainable Republic of Mauritius fully integrated in a globalised and equitable world

MISSION

- 
- Uphold the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Mauritius;
 - Promote and safeguard the national interest of the Republic of Mauritius at bilateral, regional, and international levels;
 - Strengthen our existing bilateral as well as multilateral relations and forge new partnerships;
 - Contribute towards building a secure, equitable and democratic international community;
 - Enhance our diplomatic and consular network overseas for greater visibility and outreach.
 - Enhance our diplomatic and consular network overseas for greater visibility and outreach.
 - Foster inclusive and sustainable socio-economic growth through the expansion of trade with a view to integrating the Republic of Mauritius into the global economy;
 - Work towards sustainable development through the deepening and acceleration of regional integration

The Ministry's Responsibilities are to:

Ensure that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Mauritius are safeguarded in all bilateral, regional and international fora

Conduct our international relations and foreign policy with a view to promoting and safeguarding the interest of Mauritius and, in this respect, to represent and position Mauritius internationally

Deal with all matters pertaining to the conduct and administration of foreign affairs, regional integration and international trade, including all trade and trade-related matters,

Act as the focal point of Government in its interactions with foreign governments and regional and international organisations

Raise awareness of the benefits to be derived from bilateral, regional and international instruments of cooperation

Act as the depository of all bilateral, regional and international treaties, conventions, protocols and agreements; and

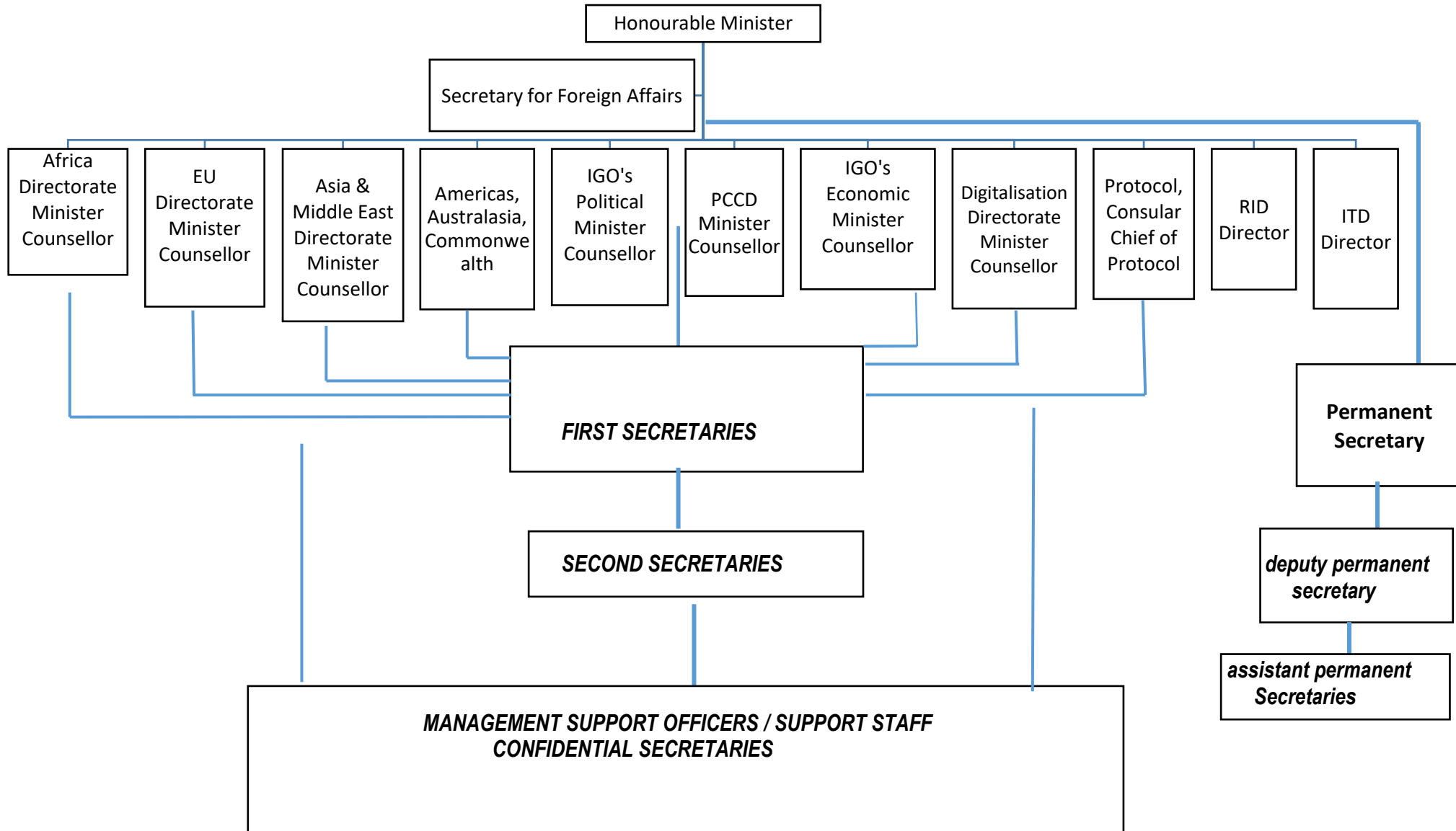
Provide consular service and assistance as appropriate

Structure of the Ministry

The Ministry comprises of the Foreign Affairs Division, the Regional Integration Division, the International Trade Division and the Industrial Property Office.

The Ministry is supported by 19 Diplomatic Missions Overseas and 2 Consulates in Mumbai and Dubai, as well as a network of Honorary Consulates. The network of Overseas Representations caters, on behalf of the Government of Mauritius, for a diverse range of representational and promotional assistance functions as well as providing assistance in the execution of its mandate as per its portfolio.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



About Our People

The Secretary for Foreign Affairs, as the Accounting Officer, is responsible for the sound administration and management of the Ministry and all the Mauritius Missions Overseas.

He is assisted by the Permanent Secretary, Administrative staff, staff from the Diplomatic Cadre – both at the Ministry and in our overseas diplomatic missions – as well as officers from the Regional Integration Division, the International Trade Division and the Industrial Property Office of Mauritius.

The role and functions of the diplomatic and administrative staff are geared towards ensuring smooth delivery of services in line with the Vision and Mission of the Ministry in the implementation of foreign, regional integration and trade policies, as laid down by Government.

Senior Management Team (from 01 July 2021 to 30 June 2022)

SN	Name of Officers	Contact details
1.	Secretary for Foreign Affairs Ambassador H. Dillum	Phone: (230) 405 – 2541 Fax: (230) 212-5507 Email: sfa@govmu.org
2.	Permanent Secretary Mr. R. Bhugwant	Phone: (230) 405 2523 Fax: (230) 212 – 2043 Email: psmfa@govmu.org
3.	Ambassador and Head Commonwealth, OIF, Americas, Australasia and Sovereignty Issues Directorate Ambassador V. Mungur	Phone: (230) 405 2565 Email: vmungur59@gmail.com
4.	Minister Counsellor and Head, Asia and Middle East and Russia Directorate Mr. J. Bissoondoyal	Phone: (230) 405 2683
5.	Minister Counsellor and Head EU and EU Europe Directorate Mrs. M.N.Chavrimootoo	Phone: (230) 405 2622 Fax: (230) 212-5914 Email: hchavrimootoo@govmu.org
6.	Minister Counsellor and Head IGOs Economic Directorate Mr. N. Chedumbarum	Phone: (230) 405 2619 Email: mervinche@hotmail.com
7.	Minister Counsellor and Head IGOs Political Directorate (UN System) Mr. R. Sookun	Phone: (230) 405-2526 Email: rsookun@yahoo.com
8.	Minister Counsellor and Head IGOs Political Directorate – Geneva and the Hague Related Issues Mr. R. Sookun	Phone: (230) 405-2526 Email: rsookun@yahoo.com
9.	Minister Counsellor and Head Digital Transformation, Communication & Capacity Development Directorate Mr. R. Bhuckory	Phone: (230) 405 2563 Email: rakbb@hotmail.com
10.	Minister Counsellor and Head of Policy, Coherence, Coordination Drafting Directorate Mr. K. Jingree	Phone: (230) 405 2612 Email: kjingree@govmu.org
11.	Minister Counsellor and Head of Protocol, Courtesy Calls, Accreditation Mr. A. Hurree	Phone: (230) 405 2539 Email: ahurree@govmu.org protocol@govmu.org
12.	Minister Counsellor and Head of Bilateral Africa Directorate Mr. R. Sawmy	Phone : (230) 405 2659 Email: rsawmy@govmu.org
13.	Minister Counsellor and Head of African Union Directorate Mrs. G. Mootoosamy	Phone: (230) 405 2605 Email: gmootoosamy@govmu.org
14.	Director, Regional Integration Division Mrs. M. Dabee-Hauzaree	Phone: (230) 405 2624 Email: (230) 213 7672
15.	Director, Trade Policy, International Trade Division Mr. N. Boodhoo	Phone: (230) 260 2911 Email: sunilboodhoo59@gmail.com
16.	Deputy Permanent Secretary Mrs. D. Takoory	Phone: (230) 405 2516 Email: dtakoory@govmu.org

17.	Acting Deputy Permanent Secretary Mrs. S. Meeajane	Phone: (230) 405 – 2522 Email: smeeajane@govmu.org
18.	Officer in Charge, Industrial Property Office Mr. Ranjive Beergaunot	Phone: (230) 260 2811 Email: rbeergaunot@govmu.org

Gender Policy Statement

The Ministry advocated gender equality in its strategies and objectives. It revisited its values from a gender equality perspective to foster gender-equitable work-life integration, and to ensure commitment and coherence in our policy objectives and sustainable development goals.

Gender mainstreaming activities 2021/2022

To address the challenge of Gender Based Violence, the Ministry participates actively in High Level Committee on the Elimination of Gender Based Violence chaired by the Hon. Prime Minister.

The Ministry is involved in the Technical Working Group 2 (sub strategy component 2) of the National Strategy and Action Plan, and is the lead agency to offer training on international conventions relating to Gender Based Violence (GBV).

In this regard, the Ministry organised two training workshops on the topic of Gender Based Violence in September 2021 which gathered around 100 participants from the public sector, private sector, NGOs and trade unions.

The workshops aimed at creating awareness/sensitisation on the international conventions, the current legislation and policies, and the domestication of conventions in our legal framework relating to GBV. In addition, two awareness raising sessions on gender issues were also conducted at the level of the Ministry. The highly interactive sessions provided an opportunity for members of staff to discuss the challenges faced by women in the workplace in light of gender stereotypes.

Brief Overview of the Operational/Functional areas

(i) Activities of the General Administration section

Finance and Budgeting – Working out the budget proposals, monitoring of expenditure, maintaining of accounting records, ensuring follow-up on internal and external audit reports, and implementation of budget measures, among others.

Human Resources Management – Coordinating and implementing all aspects which relate to the management of human resources, conditions of service, staff relations, training and development.

Procurement and Supply – Conducting procurement exercises in line with public procurement legislations, ensuring maximum value for money.

Confidential and Open Registries – Ensuring the proper management of correspondence, files and documents and records within the Ministry.

Operation of Mission Overseas – Arrangement for the departure and return of diplomatic staff posted overseas, payment of allowances and grants, process of all expenditures and procurement above Rs 100,000.

Each Directorate is usually headed by an Ambassador/Minister Counsellor. The functional role of the Directorates is briefly highlighted.

(ii) Functions of Directorates

➤ Protocol, Consular and Immunities Directorate

The **Protocol, Consular and Immunities Directorate** oversees and monitors the provision of diplomatic privileges and immunities to foreign Diplomatic and Consular Missions, International Organizations and their staff in line with international law. The Directorate is also responsible for the registration of the staff of foreign Missions and International and Regional organisations. It co-ordinates the registration of motor vehicles licenses, issue of diplomatic identity cards, residence permits, tax exemption and privileges for these missions and organisations.

➤ **Policy Coordination and Coherence Directorate**

The **Policy Coordination and Coherence Directorate** provides direct support to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs. It reviews the drafting of key documents, such as speeches, messages, parliamentary questions, and reports, on all issues falling under the purview of the Ministry so as to ensure policy coherence and relevance. The Directorate facilitates the coordination within the various departments of the Ministry, with our Missions Overseas, as well with other government agencies with a view to delivering a focused and effective foreign policy.

➤ **IGOs Economic Directorate**

The **IGOs Economic Directorate** focuses on current and emerging economic issues at the national, regional and international levels. One of the objectives of the Directorate is to preserve and enhance the economic interests of Mauritius at all levels. It also coordinates the activities of the different stakeholders while they engage with our traditional and non-traditional economic partners. In view of the fact that Mauritius cannot rely solely on domestic resource mobilization, this Directorate also works towards reaching out for assistance in the form of technical assistance and capacity building from international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the IMF.

The Directorate also deals with the political aspects of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The Directorate participates in the efforts to promote Mauritius as an investment destination as well as a crucial hub for regional and international trade taking advantage of our preferential market access in Europe, Africa, Asia and USA.

➤ **IGO Political (UN System) Directorate**

The **IGO Political (UN System) Directorate** deals with a wide range of multilateral issues, including peace and security, international terrorism, sustainable development, climate change, and maritime issues and election of Mauritius experts to the UN. It focuses on the United Nations (UN) System, such as the UN Principal Organs, UN Subsidiary Bodies, Programmes and Funds, Functional Commissions, Specialised Agencies, Human Rights and Human Rights Treaty Bodies; and UN General Assembly Committees.

➤ **IGOs Political (Geneva and the Hague Related Issues)**

The **IGOs Political (Geneva and the Hague Related Issues)**, created in May 2021, deals with a wide range of multilateral issues, including world health, labour, human rights, peace and security, international terrorism, sustainable development and migration, amongst others. It focuses on issues dealt at the multilateral level in Geneva, including those related to BWC, CCW, ATT, BRS, CERN, CITES, IPU, UPU, WMO, ICRC/IFRC, ISO, UNHCR, OCHA, etc. The Directorate also handles issues pertaining to the Hague-based institutions, including the International Criminal Court, the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the International Court of Justice, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the Hague Conference on Private International Law.

➤ **Bilateral Africa Directorate**

The **Bilateral Africa Directorate** oversees the economic, social and political relations between Mauritius and the other 53 African countries. It is responsible, inter-alia, for the conclusion of MoUs/Agreements, the establishment of Special economic zones in Africa, the holding of Joint Commissions, the organisation of State visits to and from Africa, and the monitoring of political developments in African countries that may impact our national interests. The Directorate also works towards strengthening of relations with friendly countries in Africa through reinforced engagement in order to foster partnerships and create economic opportunities.

➤ **African Union Directorate**

The **African Union Directorate** is responsible for promoting and defending the interests of Mauritius in the African Union through participation in meetings, programmes and events of the Union and its agencies. It also coordinates the implementation of policies/decisions of the African Union with line Ministries.

➤ **European Union, Bilateral Europe Directorate**

The **European Union, Bilateral Europe Directorate** is responsible for overseeing the relations of Mauritius with the European Union as well as bilateral relations with the European countries.

It aims at consolidating existing economic, trade and development cooperation relations with the European Union and the Organisation of African Caribbean and Pacific (OACPS). The Directorate is

inter-alia engaged in the post-Cotonou Partnership Agreement process, the Neighbourhood Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) of the EU.

➤ **Asia, Middle East and Russia Directorate**

The **Asia, Middle East and Russia Directorate** oversees bilateral relations with over 50 countries and especially with traditional partners such as China, India, Japan, Pakistan and Russia. It is also responsible for engaging with emerging partners such as the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, South Korea and Indonesia.

The conclusion of the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with China, the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) with India, the proposed CEPCA with the United Arab Emirates and the enhancement of relations with Japan since the opening of the Embassy illustrate the excellent bilateral relations pursuant to our strategic economic partnership agreements.

➤ **Americas Australasia, Commonwealth, Francophonie and Sovereignty Issues Directorate**

The **Directorate for the Americas Australasia, Commonwealth, Francophonie and Sovereignty Issues** processes all relevant political, trade political, commercial and economic, and development cooperation issues in respect of all the countries covered within the geographic zones of Americas and Australasia. This includes consolidating and expanding our multifaceted relations with traditional partners (United States, Australia and Canada) and also developing and promoting mutually beneficial partnerships and active cooperation programmes with newer partners. At Multilateral level, the directorate processes existing and emerging issues covered by the Commonwealth and the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) and their respective bodies. The objective is to maintain and further develop our ongoing engagements with these two important multilateral organisations. The Directorate also processes, in consultation with the PMO, of all matters relating to the effective exercise of Mauritius of its sovereignty over Chagos Archipelago and Tromelin.

➤ **Digital Transformation, Communication and Capacity Development Directorate**

The **Digital, Transformation, Communication and Capacity Development Directorate** (DTCCD) is responsible for disseminating relevant and current international information to our diplomatic staff and to our Missions abroad. Such information is used to create a knowledge based information system, support debate, research and decision-making on diplomatic issues. It also provides up to date information on the diplomatic activities of the Ministry through its website to the public and to our diaspora. It conducts

regular outreach awareness sessions through presentations and brainstorming on various themes of relevance to our staff. The directorate is also responsible for the functioning of the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Trade.

➤ **Regional Integration Division**

The **Regional Integration Division (RID)** focuses on the formulation, coordination and implementation of regional policies and plans at the regional and national levels. It is responsible for the promotion and enhancement of regional and continental integration through our membership in Southern African Development Community, (SADC), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa; (COMESA), Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), and Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA). The Regional Integration Division also contributes to the preparation of bilateral/continental briefs/papers.

➤ **International Trade Division**

The **International Trade Division**, which also includes the Industrial Property Office, is responsible for the formulation of trade policies. The Division is responsible for negotiations on trade deals for Mauritius at the multilateral level, as well as in the context of regional and bilateral trade relations. It also ensures that international trade rules are shaped in a manner so as to create better trading opportunities for Mauritian exporters on international, regional and individual markets, and follows up on implementation of trade agreements. In addition, the International Trade Division is responsible for investigating applications for trade remedy actions, and for preparing the Trade Policy Review of Mauritius.

➤ **Industrial Property Office**

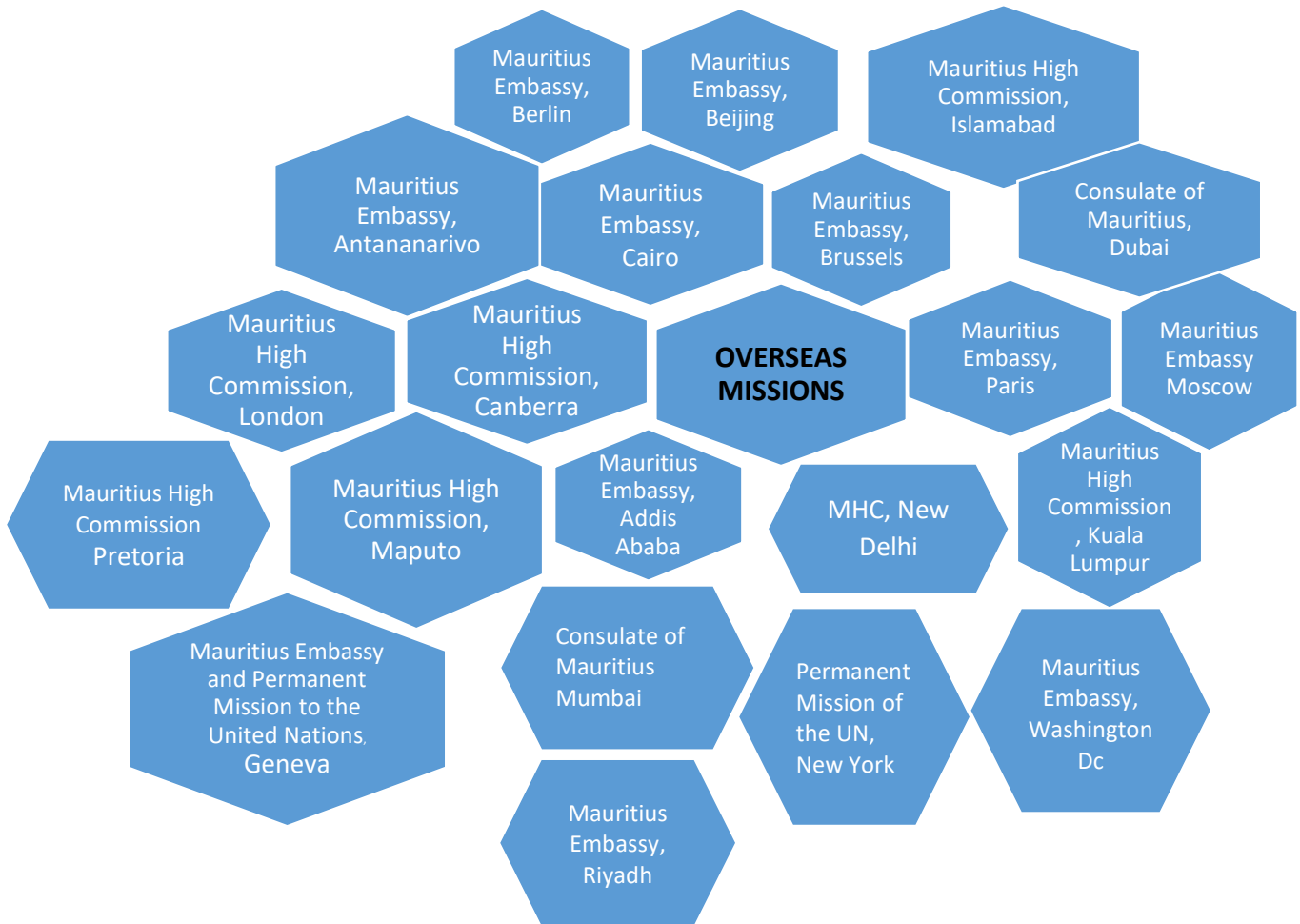
The **Industrial Property Office** of Mauritius (IPOM), which is a revenue-generating office, administers the Industrial Property legislations, namely the Industrial Property Act 2019 and the Protection Against Unfair Practices (Industrial Property Rights) Act 2002, as subsequently amended. It includes the registration and protection of industrial property rights namely patents, utility models, layout designs of integrated circuits, plant breeder's rights, industrial designs, trademarks, trade names and geographical indications. The IPOM also helps in the dissemination of information on the importance of Industrial Property Rights.

The grades and number of staff of the Ministry for financial year 2021/22 are as follows:

GRADE	NUMBER OF STAFF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS DIVISION	
Diplomatic Cadre	
Secretary for Foreign Affairs	1
Ambassador	20
Minister Counsellor/Deputy High Commissioner	15
First Secretary	27
Second Secretary	39
Administrative Cadre	
Permanent Secretary	1
Deputy Permanent Secretary	1
Assistant Permanent Secretary	2
Human Resource Cadre	
Manager, Human Resource	1
Assistant Manager, Human Resource	1
Human Resource Executive	3
Financial Operations Cadre	
Manager, Financial Operations	1
Assistant Manager, Financial Operations	3
Principal Financial Operations Officer	2
Financial Operations Officer/Senior Financial Operations Officer	2
Assistant Financial Operations Officer/Senior Assistant Financial Operations Officer	5
Procurement & Supply Cadre	
Assistant Manager, Procurement & Supply	1
Procurement & Supply Officer/Senior Procurement & Supply Officer	1
Assistant Procurement & Supply Officer	1
Internal Control Cadre	
Assistant Manager, Internal Control	1
IT Cadre	
Systems Analyst	1
Assistant Systems Analyst/Senior Assistant Systems Analyst	1
Computer Support Officer/Senior Computer Support Officer	1
Other	
Senior Library Officer	1
General Services Cadre	66
Analyst/Senior Analyst	1
Receptionist/Telephone Operator	2
Printing Finishing Book Binding Operator	1
Stores Attendant	1
Workmen's' Cadre	28
REGIONAL INTEGRATION DIVISION	
Director (Co-operation)	1
Deputy Director (Co-operation)	-
Principal Analyst (Co-operation)	3

Senior Analyst (Co-operation)	3
Analyst (Co-operation)	6
INTERNATIONAL TRADE DIVISION	
Director Trade Policy	1
Deputy Director Trade Policy	1
Deputy Permanent Secretary	1
Assistant Permanent Secretary	1
Principal Trade Policy Analyst	2
Senior Trade Policy Analyst	5
Trade Policy Analyst	6
Trade Policy Information Officer	1
Human Resource Cadre	1
Financial Operation Cadre	2
General Services Cadre	22
Workmen's Cadre	8
INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY OFFICE	
Director, Industrial Property Office	1
Principal Industrial Property Officer	1
Senior Industrial Property Officer	3
Industrial Property Officer	5
COMMONWEALTH CLIMATE FINANCE ACCESS HUB	
Assistant Permanent Secretary	1
IT Cadre	1

Overseas Missions - The Ministry is present in various parts of the world through a network of 19 Diplomatic Missions and two Consulates General. These overseas Missions, as integral parts of the Ministry, are headed by an Ambassador/High Commissioner or a Consul as appropriate, and are the very first public windows of Mauritius in the host countries.



Mission Overseas (Embassies, High Commissions, Permanent Representatives and Consulates)

SN	MISSION	COUNTRY	E-MAIL AND TELEPHONE NO	TIME DIFFERENCE WITH MAURITIUS
1	ADDIS ABABA*	ETHIOPIA	Chancery Address: Bole Sub City, Woreda 03, H. No. 089, P.O. Box 200222 Chancery telephone no.: +251 116 615 997 E-mail: addisemb@gmail.com addis.consular.mru@gmail.com	-1 HOUR
2	ANTANANARIVO*	MADAGASCAR	Tel: (+261) 20 22 538 42/44 (+261) 32 11 321 57 (+261) 33 37 321 Email: memad@moov.mg	-1 HOUR
3	BEIJING*	CHINA	Embassy Tel: 86 10 6532 5695 Consular Section Tel: 86 10 6532 5698 Email: mebj@govmu.org	+4 HOURS
4	BERLIN*	GERMANY	Address: Kurfürstenstrasse 84 10787 Berlin Tel: +49 30 263936-0 Email: berlin@mauritius-embassy.de	-3 HOURS (WINTER) -2 HOURS (SUMMER)
5	BRUSSELS*	BELGIUM	Tel: 32 2733 9988 Email: brusselsemb@govmu.org	-2 HOURS (SUMMER) -3 HOURS (WINTER)
6	CAIRO*	EGYPT	Tel: 202 2736 5208/9 Email: cairoemb@govmu.org	-2 HOURS
7	CANBERRA***	AUSTRALIA	Address: 2 Beale Crescent Deakin Canberra, ACT 2600 Australia Telephone Number: + 612 6282 4436 / + 612 6281 1203 Fax Number : + 612 6282 3235 Email : canberrahc@govmu.org	+6 HOURS (WINTER) +7 HOURS (SUMMER)
8	DUBAI	DUBAI	Tel: 971 4 3429896 Email: info@mauritiusconsulate.com	NIL
9	GENEVA**	SWITZERLAND	Tel: 41 22 734 8550 Email: genevamis@govmu.org	-3 HOURS (SUMMER) -2 HOURS (WINTER)

10	ISLAMABAD***	PAKISTAN	Tel: 92 51 282 4657/8 Tel: 92 51 282 8985 9 (Consular Section) Email: mauripak@dsl.net.pk	+1 HOUR
11	KUALA LUMPUR***	MALAYSIA	Tel: 603 2163 6301/06 Tel: 603 2162 3941 Email: klhc@govmu.org	+4 HOURS
12	LONDON***	UK	Tel: 44 207 581 0294/95 Email: londonhc@govmu.org	-4 HOURS (WINTER) -3 HOURS (SUMMER)
13	MAPUTO*	MOZAMBIQUE	Telephone Lines Reception: (+258) 2149 4182 (+258) 2149 4624 (+258) 823 074 319 (+258) 843 012 656 Fax Number (+258) 2149 4729 Email maputo@govmu.org	-2 HOURS
14	MOSCOW*	RUSSIA	Tel: 7495 915 7617/0492 Email: moscow_emb@govmu.org	NIL
15	MUMBAI CONSULATE	INDIA	Tel: 91-22 2284 1410 (Consul's Office) Email: mumbaicons@govmu.org	+1.5 HOURS
16	NEW DELHI***	INDIA	EP-41 Jesus & Mary Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110 021 Telephone Numbers: 91-11-2410 2161/62 Fax Number: 91-11-2410 2194 newdelhi.mauritius.govmu.org Email : mhcnewdelhi@gmail.com	+L.5 HOURS
17	NEW YORK**	USA	Tel: 1 212 949 0190/0259 Email: newyorkmis@govmu.org	-9 HOURS (WINTER) -8HOURS (SUMMER)
18	PARIS*	FRANCE	Ambassade de la République de Maurice 127, rue de Tocqueville 75017 PARIS Tel. No. : +33 1 42 27 30 19 Email : aris@amb-maurice.fr Consular service : visa@amb-maurice.fr	-2HRS (SUMMER) -3HRS (WINTER)
19	PRETORIA***	SOUTH AFRICA	Tel: 27 12 342 1283/4 Email: pretoriahc@govmu.org	-2 HOURS
20	RIYADH*	SAUDI ARABIA	Tel: 966 11 482 9567/ 9591 Email: emb.riyadh@govmu.org	-1 HOUR

21	WASHINGTON*	USA	Tel: 1-202-244 1491/2 Email: mauritius.embassy@verizon.net	-9 HOURS (WINTER) -8 HOURS (SUMMER)
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Note:

*Embassy

**Permanent Representation

***High Commission

1. DEFENDING SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

- The Ministry ensured the adoption of a Decision on the Decolonisation of Mauritius following the resolution by the Universal Postal Union (UPU) on 24 August 2021 for the implementation of UN General Assembly Resolution 73/295 and which, *inter alia*, provides that the UPU formally acknowledges that, for the purposes of its activities, the Chagos Archipelago forms an integral part of the territory of Mauritius and that the International Bureau of the UPU should cease the registration, distribution and forwarding of all postage stamps issued by the so-called “British Indian Ocean Territory”.
- The Ministry campaigned actively for the adoption of a Decision on the Decolonisation of Mauritius by the Universal Postal Union (UPU) at the UPU’s 27th Universal Postal Congress in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire, on 24 August 2021 for the implementation of UN General Assembly Resolution 73/295. The Decision provides that the UPU formally acknowledges that the Chagos Archipelago forms an integral part of the territory of Mauritius and that the International Bureau of the UPU should cease the registration, distribution and forwarding of all postage stamps issued by the so-called “British Indian Ocean Territory”.
- Through the decision, the UN General Assembly expressed deep concern at the continued illegal occupation of the Chagos Archipelago by the United Kingdom in disregard of the Advisory Opinion of the ICJ, the relevant UN General Assembly Resolutions and the Judgment of the Special Chamber of ITLOS; and reiterates its call to the United Kingdom to immediately withdraw its colonial administration from the Chagos Archipelago.
- Ministry ensured the adoption of a Decision on the Decolonisation of Mauritius by the 35th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union held on 5-6 February 2022, wherein the Assembly *inter-alia* expressed deep concern at the continued illegal occupation of the Chagos Archipelago by the United Kingdom and reiterated its call to the latter to immediately withdraw its colonial administration from the Chagos Archipelago. It also called upon AU Member States to support all efforts in international, regional and intergovernmental organizations, through initiatives, decisions, resolutions and other actions aimed at enabling Mauritius to assert its sovereignty over the Chagos

Archipelago pursuant to the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice, UN General Assembly Resolution 73/295 and the Judgment of the Special Chamber of ITLOS.

2. IMPROVING TRADE POLICY ENVIRONMENT

- The Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA), between Mauritius and India, was signed on 22nd February 2021 after protracted negotiations dating back to 2005. It entered into force on 01st April 2021. On 12 September 2022, the Indian authorities notified its agreement on the proposed amendment to the CECPA, to incorporate the Chapter on General Economic Cooperation and the text of the Automatic Trigger Safeguard Mechanism.

In accordance with Article 8.2 (4) of the CECPA, the Chapter on the General Economic Cooperation and the text of the Automatic Trigger Safeguard Mechanism became operational on 1 October 2022.

- The Mauritius-China FTA came into force on 01 January 2021. The FTA comprises four main components which pertain to trade in goods, trade in services, investment and economic cooperation. During the first year of implementation of the FTA, exports experienced a sharp rise of 73.2% (from Rs 560.8 million in 2020 to Rs 971.7 million in 2021). Main exports to China comprised of copper ingots, golden granulated sugar, white refined sugar, crude tuna oil and woven shirts 100% cotton.
- Given that China is a new export market for Mauritius compared to the EU and to the US, it will take some time before the full potential of the agreement could be unlocked. The implementation of the package of 31 measures elaborated by the inter-Ministerial committee on the implementation of FTAs presented to the Council of Ministers will contribute in unlocking this potential.
- The SADC Protocol on Trade in Services entered into force on **13 January 2022** following ratification by two-thirds of the SADC Member States. Mauritius ratified the Protocol and submitted its instrument of ratification to the SADC Secretariat on 23 September 2015. With the coming into force of the Protocol on Trade in Services, Mauritius would now have market access in 10 SADC Member States on a transparent, legally secure and predictable basis in six priority sectors namely, Financial Services, Communications, Tourism, Transport, Construction and Energy-related services. Mauritian service suppliers can establish commercial presence in SADC Member States or supply their services on a cross border basis from Mauritius. It is important to highlight that given that SADC Members have taken more ambitious commitments in these sectors compared to commitments taken

at the WTO level, the Mauritian business community will have a definite competitive advantage on these markets compared to non-SADC countries.

- Mauritius has benefitted from a financial envelope of EUR 1.4 million from the EU under the SADC Trade Related Facility (TRF) to implement commitments made under the SADC FTA. Being the TRF Focal Point, Ministry ensured proper coordination with all relevant national public/private sector stakeholders and beneficiaries. Ministry also monitored the successful implementation of all projects and activities. The TRF Programme came to an end in March 2022.
- Following the imposition by Saudi Ports Authorities in December 2021 that all sugar exported to the Kingdom in bags of 25 and 50 Kgs should be placed on wooden pallets or else they would not be removed from the containers, Ministry lobbied the Saudi Authorities to remove this ban on Sugar exported from Mauritius.
- The Ministry has also been able to accredit the Competent Authority of Mauritius with the Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA), so as our Fish and Fishery Products can enter the Saudi Market.
- In August, 2022, the Ministry submitted the list of Processing Plants and Establishments which has been duly certified by the Mauritius Competent Authority for the export of fish and fishery products. While the response of the Saudi Food and Drug Authority on the list of Establishments and Processing Plants is awaited, our Competent Authority has been accredited.
- The Proclamation and entry into operation of the Industrial Property Act and the Industrial Property Regulations was effected on 31 January 2022. The enhanced legal framework seeks to broaden the scope of protection of industrial property rights by providing for the registration of utility models, layout-designs of integrated circuits, geographical indications and plant breeder's rights.
- Pursuant to the entry into operation of the new law, there was a marked increase in the revenue collected by the office as compared to an average revenue collection of Rs 17 m in the previous financial years. The revenue collected for the financial year 2021-22 amounted to Rs 22.5 m.

3. FINANCIAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE RECEIVED

- During the period under review, the **Ministry mobilized funding to the tune of US\$ 2,406,321 and € 246,199 totaling some Rs 120 m** for the implementation of projects at the national level from the Regional Organisations (COMESA, IOC, IORA, SADC) to which Mauritius is a member.

- Upon the decision of the Cabinet, a Committee under the Chair of the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, was set up to ensure the implementation of projects under the financial assistance of the Government of India under a line of credit namely:
 - The setting up of an 8 MW Solar Photovoltaic Farm at Henrietta;
 - Construction of the Civil Service College;
 - Construction of the New National Archives and National Library;
 - Construction of a Renal Transplant Unit, two Mediclinics and for Area Health Centres;
 - Construction of the New Forensic Science Laboratory; and
 - Replacement of old and defective water pipes.

- The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) fully financed, to the tune of USD 200,000, a diaspora project entitled, *“Building the capacity of the Mauritian government to strengthen linkages with the Mauritian Diaspora”*. Moreover, the IOM also fully financed, to the tune of USD 235,000, the *“Mauritius Pilot Youth Diaspora Volunteering Project”*, which was launched in August 2021.

- Government had previously adopted a National Migration and Development Policy and related Action Plan to sharpen joint efforts and partnerships to harness the nexus between migration and development in line with the UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and Mauritius Vision 2030. The Ministry was designated as the focal point for issues concerning our overseas diaspora by virtue of our wide network of Embassies/High Commissions and our Honorary Consuls. The Ministry has been partnering with the IOM with the end result being the establishment of a Diaspora Cell which will enable the identification and location of the skills of diaspora members that could contribute to the socio-economic development of the country.



Mr. Charles Kwenin, International Organisation for Migration (IOM) Regional Director for Southern Africa, 26 Nov 2021

- Mauritius' submission to the Joint SDG Fund, under the call for proposal 'Building Resilience and Ending Vulnerability in SIDS (3/2021), for the implementation of a joint programme, estimated at **USD 1.5 million** for both Mauritius and Seychelles, was successful. The project is supporting the Government to strengthen policy and regulatory frameworks for Green Economy, with emphasis on promoting renewable energy. The activities contribute to the acceleration of SDG 1: No Poverty, SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals. The project is supporting Government to strengthen policy and regulatory frameworks for Green Economy, with emphasis on promoting renewable energy.
- The Sustainable Development Unit (SDU) has been established at the Ministry. The mandate of the Unit is to coordinate, monitor and report on the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the SAMOA Pathway and the Agenda 2063 of the African Union. The SDU also has the responsibility to monitor and evaluate progress made in achieving the targets agreed under the Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) agreement. The agreement was signed in 2019 with the UN for the period 2019-2023.
- The Ministry pushed for the signing of an MoU between the Government of India and the Government of Mauritius for Indian Grant Assistance of a total of Rs. 400 Million for the

implementation of small development projects through local bodies Educational and Vocational Institutions. The cost of individual projects under this Grant should not exceed **Rs. 40 million.**

- The Ministry lobbied the IOC successfully for the provision of 80 tablets to the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Safety for smooth data collection, visualisation and sharing of data.

4. KEEPING MAURITIUS SAFE



Donation of 76,050 Doses of Pfizer-Biontech Covid-19 Vaccine by the United States of America through the Covax Facility, 23 September 2021



22 September 2022

Donation of 50, 400 Doses of J&J Vaccines from the Republic of South Africa

Vaccine/Assistance in Medical Field

➤ Ministry facilitated:

- (i) The shipping of 200,000 doses of Moderna vaccines donated by the French Government. Subsequent exchanges with the French authorities with a view to extending the expiry dates of the vaccines by three additional months.
- (ii) The donation of COVID19 vaccines (Pfizer (USA), Moderna (France)) including pediatric Pfizer vaccines (United Kingdom) which has contributed consequently to the success of the national COVID19 vaccination campaign.
- (iii) The dispatch of a ten-member medical team from India to Mauritius from 5-12 March 2022, as part of an exchange programme between India and Mauritius, with the aim at sharing knowledge on the management of the COVID-19 pandemic. The team comprised of doctors, nursing officers and specialists dealing with COVID-19 cases. The medical team shared their expertise and skills with local medical staff as regards the provision of medical treatment to COVID-19 patients.

➤ Ministry secured the donation of medical equipment and supplies from various countries, including:

(i) Israel:

On 06 January 2022, the Israel authorities donated medical equipment and supplies to Mauritius. The items which were received include 560 waterproof medical gowns, 680 water resistant gowns, 10000 surgical masks, 400 protective face shields, 2 vent way sparrows and accessories, and 50 pulse oximeters.

(ii) Saudi Arabia:

To support Mauritius in its fight against Covid-19, the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre donated medical supplies to the Ministry of Health and Wellness for an amount of **USD 500,000**.



Donation of Medical Equipment from The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 09 Sep 2021

(iii) China:

Sino pharm vaccines and other medical supplies were received from China to fight the Covid 19 pandemic in Mauritius

(ii) Assistance to Mauritian Nationals/Consular activities

- Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, Mauritian nationals studying and residing in Ukraine have been fleeing the country and were stranded in various neighbouring countries. Ministry has been actively involved in facilitating their safe and speedy return to Mauritius
- The Consular Section of Ministry has processed around **2000** applications for passports, out of which 1556 were sent to PIO for processing. Around **1000** certificates/documents were issued to Mauritian nationals including *Certificat de Coutume*, Travel Documents, *Nulla Osta*, *Certificat de Concordance*.
- The Ministry provided assistance to thousands of Mauritian nationals with various problems such as family breakups, alleged child abduction by the other partner, repatriation and legalisation of documents. For the period January to September 2022, the Directorate has repatriated 115 mortal remains, transferred the ashes of 200 deceased nationals and provided assistance to around 1800 Mauritian nationals in distress overseas. The Ministry also assisted in the issuance of travel documents in the case of lost passports and has attended to more than 700 queries on loss of passports.

(iii) Connectivity: Keeping Mauritius Connected in a post Covid era

- Following the closing of borders by Madagascar with Mauritius in year 2020 in view of a resurgence of COVID-19 cases, Ministry negotiated for the operation of Air Mauritius flights to Madagascar as from the month of December 2021 onwards until the re-opening of the borders.
- Following the ban of flights to Mauritius by Saudi authorities in November 2021, Ministry negotiated with the relevant Saudi authorities to remove the ban and to resume its weekly flights to Mauritius.
- The Ministry facilitated the operationalization of an air bubble agreement between India and Mauritius allowing Air Mauritius to operate up to 4 weekly flights during the period of closure of the Indian air space due to the Delta Corona virus variant propagation. The Ministry also facilitated special flights to South Africa and Madagascar for the return of Mauritian nationals and residents.
- The Ministry also facilitated the handing over of a Passenger Variant Dornier and an Advanced Light Helicopter (AHL) Dhruv from the Indian authorities to the Mauritius authorities in April 2022.

5. ECONOMIC DRIVEN DIPLOMACY

- A General Framework Agreement (GFA) was signed between Mauritius and Tanzania in January 2022. The Agreement aims at enhancing collaboration between the two countries in traditional sectors and paving the way for new avenues of cooperation. As highlighted by the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs, the signature of this GFA not only bears testimony to the existing high-level relationship between Mauritius and Tanzania, but also marks the beginning of many new possibilities in bilateral cooperation.
- The Agreement constitutes an important stepping stone for increased overall cooperation while promoting collaboration between the Mauritian and Tanzanian economic, scientific, technical and cultural institutions, and encouraging the exchange of experience as well as information in areas of mutual interest.
- The Protocol amending the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) between Mauritius and Germany was signed on 29 October 2021.

- Mauritius signed the Treaty for the establishment of the African Medicines Agency (AMA) on 21 September 2021 and deposited its instrument of ratification on 30 September 2021. The Treaty entered into force on 5 November 2021.
- Mauritius ensured the concerns of Small Island Developing States were reflected during the conclusion of the negotiations for the Post Cotonou Partnership, which was a collective achievement of the African Caribbean Pacific Countries (ACP) and the European Union (EU).
- The Ministry pursued its lobbying efforts with the EU Commission and EU member states, for the removal of Mauritius from the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and EU lists on cooperating third countries. In this context, Mauritius chaired the Ad-Hoc Organisation of African Caribbean Pacific States (OACPS) Ministerial Contact Group on the EU List of Non-Cooperative Tax Jurisdictions and that of Third Countries concerning Anti-Money Laundering/Combating Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT). The position of the OACPS on the issue of AML/CFT was presented to the Joint ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly held on 14 July 2022.
- The Ministry contributed to the extension for another 6 months of the Protocol to the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement with the European Union, which expired in December 2021.
- The Joint Interpretative Statement between India and Mauritius, which would be read in conjunction with the now terminated Promotion and Protection of Investment (Agreement) between the two countries, was signed on 11 July 2022.
- Ministry proposed amendments to the rules of the IORA Special Fund for equal treatment to be given to Mauritius and other Small Island Developing States in the allocation of funds. These amendments were approved by the Council of Ministers in November 2021.
- Ministry, along with the Ministry of Industry, participated in the drafting of the SADC Protocol on Industry and Development, which was ratified in February 2022.
- A project was proposed by the Indian authorities, to design, build and launch a small satellite for Mauritius, through the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), in collaboration with the

Mauritius Research and Innovation Council (MRIC). The project is ongoing and the launch of the satellite is tentatively scheduled for August 2023.

- A Memorandum of Mutual Understanding for Cooperation in the Fisheries sector between the Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping and the Federal Agency for Fisheries of the Russian Federation was signed virtually on 8 September 2021 by the Hon. Minister of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping, in the presence of the Honourable Alan Ganoo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade.



- The Memorandum allows for cooperation in the field of fisheries and aquaculture on a mutually beneficial and equitable basis in accordance with the national legislation of each country. The Memorandum also provides for mutual cooperation for the conservation, management and rational use of living marine resources as well as assist in prevention, warning and elimination of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.
- Following the participation of the Hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade in Dubai Expo 2020 in March 2022, two Memoranda of Understanding were signed namely:
 - (a) Joint Committee for Cooperation (JCC) between Mauritius and the UAE; and
 - (b) MOU on Elderly Welfare and Protection of Persons with Disabilities

- Ministry played a key role in getting the EDB an office within the Dubai Chamber of Commerce free of charge for two years.
- Ministry coordinated and organised several high-level Ministerial visits to UAE. During the visits, several Memoranda of Understanding, namely on the field of education, sports, space, Digital partnership, Customs, Police and Cultural matters, have been submitted of the UAE authorities for their consideration. In some cases, discussions are ongoing in terms of exchange of counter proposals.
- Ministry facilitated the visit of a delegation from Saudi Arabia to discuss the possible funding for the construction of the Riviere des Anguilles dam to the tune of 13 billion rupees.
- Ministry advocated the strengthening of collaboration between IOC and IORA in several regional fora. An MOU to deepen collaboration between the 2 organisations was signed in February 2022.
- The Ministry has also facilitated the signature of a Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement with the Republic of Angola in April 2022.

6. REPORTING OBLIGATIONS

- The 5th trade policy review of Mauritius was held at the World Trade Organisation on 9-11 November 2021. The trade policy review is a transparency exercise mandated by the Marrakesh Agreement establishing the WTO, the objective of which is to examine the trade policies and practices of the Member states. Mauritius, as a developing country is reviewed every seven years.
- Members praised Mauritius for its openness and its continued effort to further diversify the economy, and to expand market access and investment opportunities through the conclusion of the Free Trade Agreements. The role of Mauritius in the consolidation of regional and continental integration was emphasized. All the statements made by the Member states qualified the Trade Policy Review of Mauritius as highly successful.
- In September 2021, Mauritius submitted its First Country-level Report on the Status of Implementation of the African Union Agenda 2063, for the period 2013-2020 to the African Union

Commission. Subsequently, Mauritius presented the report during a virtual meeting of the AU Ministerial Committee on Agenda 2063 in January 2022. The report served as inputs to prepare the 2nd Continental Report on Agenda 2063 presented by H.E Mr. Alassana Ouattara, President of Côte d'Ivoire in his capacity as AU Chairperson on Agenda 2063 in the margins of the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government held on 5-6 February 2022 in Addis Ababa.

- On 04 February 2022, Mauritius presented a Progress Report on the Implementation of the Plan of Action of the African Peer Review Mechanism. The report provides a snapshot of various initiatives, measures and policies adopted by the Government to promote Political, Economic and Corporate Governance and Socio-Economic Development.

7. DIPLOMATIC INFLUENCE

- Ministry lobbied successfully for the election and appointment of the following Mauritian candidates:
 - Mrs. Ourveena Geereesha TOPSY-SONOO, as a Member of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) for a six-year term;
 - Mrs. Nandita Devi SUNEECHUR as a Member of the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption (AUABC) for a two year term;
 - Mr Asraf Ally CAUNHYE as a member for a second term on the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) for the term January 2023-December 2026 at the elections held in April 2021.
 - Mr Ashish Daby at the COMESA Secretariat.
 - Ms. Surekha RAMESSUR as Programme Officer (climate forecasting) and Mr. E. WENSLEY as Officer Resource Mobilization at the SADC Secretariat;
 - H.E. Mr. P.B. Vyapoory, former Vice-President of the Republic of Mauritius, as a member of the SADC Panel of Elders;
 - Hon. Matadeen, former Chief Justice, as member of the SADC Electoral Advisory Council;
 - Mr. C. Bheekhun for the position of Vice-chair of the Southern African Development Cooperation in Accreditation for the year 2021; and
 - Mr Cholakumar Ramchurn was seconded to the IORA Secretariat for the post of supervisor: Finance, Budgeting, Accounting and Human Resources from May 2021 for an initial period of one year.

➤ Mauritius was also successfully elected to the following organisations:

- Second Vice-Chair of the UNWTO for the year 2022 on 3 December 2021;
- UNCITRAL on 13 December 2021 for the term 2022-2027;
- Member of ECOSOC, with its membership starting as from 1 January 2021;
- Lead coordinator for the IORA Tourism and Cultural Exchange cluster for the period 2022-2023;
- Member of the COMESA Sub-Committee on Audit and Budgetary Matters; and
- Member of African Commission on Nuclear Energy (AFCONE) for a period of three years.

8. DIPLOMATIC NETWORK

➤ From 18 to 23 April 2022, the Ministry coordinated and ensured the successful participation of the Honourable Prime Minister in India whereby he attended the Ceremony for the WHO-Global Centre for Traditional Medicine and the Inaugural Session of the 'Global Ayush Investment and Innovation Summit'. The aim of the Centre is to bring together the use of modern technology and traditional medicine practices and therapy, build a solid evidence base for policies and standards on traditional medicines practices and products and help countries integrate same into their existing health systems. In the sidelines of the meeting, high level talks were also held with the Prime Minister of India.

The Ministry contributed to the successful participation of the Honourable Prime Minister to the World Leaders Summit in Glasgow in November 2021.



- In May 2022, the construction and interior design of the New Chancery building and staff residences in Addis Ababa was completed, and the building was duly handed over to the Embassy.
- Coordination with Ministry of Gender and COMESA Secretariat for the implementation of the *50 Million African Women Networking platform* to facilitate women in business.
- The Ministry has worked towards an intensification of bilateral relations and cooperation with clear goals and objectives. In that regard, high level meetings have been organized with several countries, amongst others Kenya and Rwanda.
- The Ministry also coordinated a virtual meeting between the Hon. Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Morocco. Moreover, study tours of several African countries to Mauritius namely Nigeria, Zambia and Eswatini were also facilitated. Enabling the exchange of information and expertise with these countries have resulted in empowering African students in their educational journey but also helped to reinforce our relations with the Continent.

9. CULTURAL DIPLOMACY

- The Chairman of the Islamic Cultural Centre (ICC), while on an official visit in Makkah city in April 2022 in the context of HAJJ 2022, negotiated a quota of 672 Hajjis for Mauritius for the year 2022. The Ministry was able to make successful representations, *inter-alia*, with the Minister of Hajj of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Crown Prince for an increase of the Mauritius quota to a minimum of 1000 Hajjis. This request was ultimately approved by the Saudi Higher Authorities.

- The Ministry, in collaboration with:
 - (i) the High Commission of India, organized various events in the context of celebration of the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Mauritius;



- (ii) the High Commission of Pakistan, organized several events to commemorate the 54th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mauritius and Pakistan;



(iii) the Embassy of People's Republic of China, organized several events to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mauritius and the People's Republic of China;



(iv) the IORA Secretariat for the celebration of its 25th Anniversary on 7th March 2022 in Mauritius and facilitated the issue of a commemorative stamp to mark the event.

Status on Implementation of Key Actions

Table 2 below shows the status of the Key Actions and the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) pertaining to the Ministry which were included in the Budget 2021/2022

Outcome	Outcome Indicator	Target 2021/22	Achievement at 30 Jun 2022	Remarks
Stronger economic growth through effective foreign policy and enhanced international trade	Percentage growth in exports of goods & services	15% or more	Exports of goods for the 2nd quarter of 2022 increased by 33.8%(compared to the corresponding quarter of 2021) As per latest available preliminary estimates, exports of services for the 1st quarter of 2022 increased by 169.2% (compared to the corresponding quarter of 2021)	

Delivery Unit	Main Service	Key Performance Indicator	Target 2021/2022	Achievement at 30 June 2022	Remarks
Overseas Mission	Creating Opportunities for export of goods and services and promotion of investment	Number of trade and investment links established	575	535	MHC Maputo - 3 MHC Antananarivo - 3 MHC Canberra - 8 MHC London - 3 MHC Islamabad - Nil ME Berlin - 50 ME Cairo - 2 ME Riyadh - 1 Dubai Consulate - 100 ME, Brussels - 6 MHC New Delhi - 25 ME Paris - 324 MHC Kuala Lumpur - 10
	Implement various diplomatic strategies to create economic opportunities	Number of Agreements and MOUs with various countries under negotiation	11	73	MHC Maputo - 2 MHC Antananarivo - 15 MHC Canberra - 2 MHC London - 3 MHC Islamabad - Nil MHC Pretoria - 9 ME Berlin - 1 ME Cairo - 1 ME Riyadh - 3

						Dubai Consulate - 23 ME, Brussels - 8 MHC New Delhi - 5 ME Paris - 1
Regional Integration Division	Prepare regional projects funding	of for	Number of regional projects submitted to Regional Economic Communities	6	6	<p>1. Under the SADC Regional Vulnerability and Analysis Programme (RVAA), an amount of US\$ 47,000 has been disbursed by the SADC Secretariat.</p> <p>2. Funds to the tune of USD 500,000 have been granted to Mauritius for the implementation of the project "Development of Guidelines and Standards for Renewable Energy in Mauritius" under the SADC Project Preparation and Development Facility (PPDF).</p> <p>3. Mauritius has submitted an application for IORA Special Fund to the tune of approximately \$19,000 for the organisation of an IORA Workshop on nature-based tourism in May 2023. The application has been approved.</p> <p>4. Mauritius has submitted a project proposal on 'IORA Sustainable Health Initiative to the tune of USD \$ 55,000 for funding consideration under the IORA-GIZ cooperation programme. The project has been approved. A webinar on sustainable health is scheduled in Jan/February 2023 as</p>

					<p>part of the implementation of this project.</p> <p>5. Mauritius has submitted a project proposal to the tune of USD 30,742 to the IORA Secretariat entitled “Disaster Resilient Infrastructure: IORA Sub Regional Workshop for Small Island Developing States” under the IORA-GIZ Cooperation Programme. The project has been approved. The dates for the workshop are awaited.</p> <p>6. Mauritius has submitted the project “Technical Assistance to further enhance the development of the leather value chain in Mauritius” to the tune of Euro 116,199 to the COMESA Secretariat for funding consideration under the Technical Assistance Facility programme.</p>
International Trade Division	Expanding trade agreements and market access opportunities	Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement with UK: Discussions initiated on identifying priority areas for negotiations	Target date June 2022	UK has yet to revert on proposal to broaden the scope of the EPA	UK is most probably awaiting the completion of negotiations between ESA and the EU on the full EPA
	Strengthening engagement with the WTO	Finalisation and adoption of a Fisheries Subsidies Agreement at WTO multilateral level	Target date June 2022	Agreement reached and adopted	

Industrial Property Office (IPO)	Creating a proper Intellectual Property Framework	Deposit of Instrument for accession to World Intellectual Property Organization administered Treaties	Oct -21		The IPO has already initiated the procedures for the accession of the Republic of Mauritius to the WIPO-administered Treaties, namely the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), the Protocol relating to the Madrid Agreement concerning the International Registration of Marks (Madrid Protocol) and the Hague Agreement concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs. With regard to the PCT as well as the Madrid and Hague agreements, Cabinet approval has already been obtained
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Table 2 – Status of Key Actions and KPIs for year 2021/2022

Risk Management & Good Governance

NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE REPORT

There was no adverse comment on the Ministry in the Report of the Director of Audit for the Financial Year July 2017 to June 2018. The comments for the reports for years 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 have been addressed at the level of the Senior Management of the Ministry with a view to devising appropriate solutions and remedial measures; several of which have now been implemented at the level of the Ministry.

Following the submission of the Director of Audit report for year 2020/2021, a special Audit Committee was setup and observations made by the Director of Audit have been looked into. Some of the observations have already been addressed and continuous follow up is being done.

AUDIT COMMITTEE 2021/2022

An Audit Committee, chaired by the Deputy Permanent Secretary, was set up to review management and control processes throughout the organization. During the period under review, the Audit Committee met on six occasions, to review progress in implementing corrective actions proposed by the Director of Audit as well as reports from the Internal Control.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

An Occupational Safety and Health Committee chaired by the Deputy Permanent Secretary was set up on 29 August 2018 to look into issues relating to safety, health and welfare of employees at work and to promote a working environment which is safe and without health risk. The Committee has proposed to devise an Occupational Safety and Health Policy for the Ministry with a view to ensure that a structured approach is maintained while considering matters relating to the safety and health of all staff.

ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMITTEE

In line with the Public Sector Anti-Corruption Framework, an Anti-Corruption Committee has been set up at the Ministry. The Committee is chaired by the Deputy Permanent Secretary and also comprises of an integrity officer as well as a Secretary. It is responsible for the development of anti-corruption initiatives and programmes, for an effective implementation of the Anti-Corruption framework. The Anti-Corruption policy was signed on 03 May 2019 and was forwarded to the ICAC. Officers who are part of the Committee have attended various training workshops organized by the ICAC in November 2020.

As at date the Ministry has conducted two Corruption Risk Assessment exercises, namely in the area of Events Management and for the cash office at the Industrial Property Office (IPO).

TRAINING COMMITTEE

A standing Training Committee has been set up on 07 July 2018 to examine applications made for attending training, workshops/seminars held abroad as well as locally. The Training Committee is chaired by the Permanent Secretary and comprises the Deputy Permanent Secretary, a First Secretary and Manager, Human Resource or Assistant Manager, Human Resource as members.

SYSTEM OF INTERNAL AUDIT

KEY FUNCTIONS OF THE INTERNAL CONTROL UNIT

Internal Auditing is an independent and objective assurance and consulting activity that is guided by a philosophy of adding value to improve the operations of the Ministry/Department. It assists Management in accomplishing its objectives by bringing a systematic and disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of the organization's risk Management, control, and governance processes.

The Internal Auditing Staff shall govern themselves by adherence to The Institute of Internal Auditors' "Code of Ethics." The Institute's "*International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing*" (*Standards*) shall constitute the operating procedures for the department.

The IASOPM delineates the policies, standards, and procedures which govern the internal audit function.

Internal Audit enables Management to achieve better outcomes and value for money through improving governance, risk and control processes.

STRUCTURE OF THE INTERNAL CONTROL UNIT

The Internal Control Cadre, which falls under the aegis of the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning & Development, provides internal audit services to Ministries/Departments. The Internal Control Unit of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration & International Trade is headed by one Assistant Manager Internal Control. Staff forming part of the Internal Control team as at 30 June 2022 are listed hereunder.

Table1: Staff of Internal Control Unit as at 30 June 2022.

1	Assistant Manager Internal Control	Iskendar Reza Mahmud
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To maintain the independence and objectivity of the internal audit function, the Assistant Manager, Internal Control reports directly to the Accounting Officer. The Audit Committee oversees the proper functioning of the Internal Control Unit.

ACHIEVEMENT FOR THE YEAR

After consultation with the Accounting Officer, Audit Committee and other stakeholders, a risk-based internal audit plan was prepared in line with the Ministry's strategies, objectives and associated risks for the Financial Year 2021/22.

The aim of the plan was to evaluate and monitor the adequacy and effectiveness of the accounting and internal control systems. The unit established an audit universe, and potential audits were evaluated using certain risk factors and ranked from the highest risk to the lowest risk. The objectives of these audits were to determine compliance with applicable Ministry's rules and regulations.

The Accounting Officer and the Audit Committee are informed of the performance achievement relative to the plan on a quarterly basis.

During the Financial Year 2021/22, **nine** audits assignments were planned. Six audits assignments which represent around 67 % of the Annual Internal Audit Plan 2021/22 were completed.

Part III –FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Financial Highlights

The Budget 2021/2022 makes provision for 3 sub-heads as follows:

- 6-201: General
- 6-202: Foreign Relations and Regional Integration
- 6-203: International Trade

Budgetary Provision

The overall budgetary allocation of the Ministry has been decreased from Rs 1,190 million in financial year 2020/2021 to Rs 1,181 million in financial year 2021/2022. This decrease of Rs 9 million is on account of the Capital Budget by Rs 28.8 million in respect of Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets which is offset against increase in recurrent Budget by Rs 19.8m in respect of Contribution to International Organisation, Compensation of Employees; Goods and services.

Statements of Revenue and Expenditure for Financial Year 2021-2022

Statement of Revenue

Table 3 below shows a summary of total revenue from Sales of Goods and Services (Trade Mark, Patents and Industrial Design) and other sources which were collected by the Ministry.

Revenue	2021-2022 Estimates Rs	2021-2022 Actual Rs
Sales of Goods and Services (Trade Mark, Patents, Industrial Design)	16,100,000	22,394,920
Miscellaneous Revenues	0	1,565
Total Revenue	16,100,000	22,396,485

Table 3

Statement of Expenditure

Table 4 provides a summary of total expenditure incurred by the Ministry under Vote 6-1 (Ministry) which includes Sub-Heads 6-201, 6-202 and 6-203.

Head/Sub-Head of Expenditure	2020-2021 Actual Rs	2021-2022 Estimates	2021-2022 Actual Rs
Vote 6-1 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade			
Sub-Head 6-201: General			
Compensation of Employees	54,550,150	60,791,000	60,684,499
Goods and Services	12,880,306	14,140,750	14,118,799
Acquisition of Non-Financial	1,614,600		
Total	68,934,056	71,200,000	74,803,298
Sub-Head 6-202: Foreign Relations and Regional Integration			
Compensation of Employees	430,837,540	425,429,350	425,190,524
Goods and Services	275,505,401	283,541,175	283,205,497
Grants	317,886,708	307,167,000	307,051,107
Donation to International Institution	1,926,245	7,850,000	6,409,452
Acquisition of Non-Financial	19,791,004	47,400,000	46,781,122
Total	1,046,016,898	1,071,387,525	1,068,637,702
Sub-Head 6-203: International Trade			
Compensation of Employees	30,511,842	33,152,580	33,089,693
Goods and Services	49,334,059	52,163,500	49,982,323
Grants	2,574,228	4,124,645	4,116,605
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	483,680	3,300,000	290,640
Total	82,864,578	92,740,725	87,479,261
TOTAL EXPENDITURE for Vote 6-1	1,197,815,532	1,235,328,250	1,230,920,261
Actual expenditure as compared to Estimated \approx 99.64%			

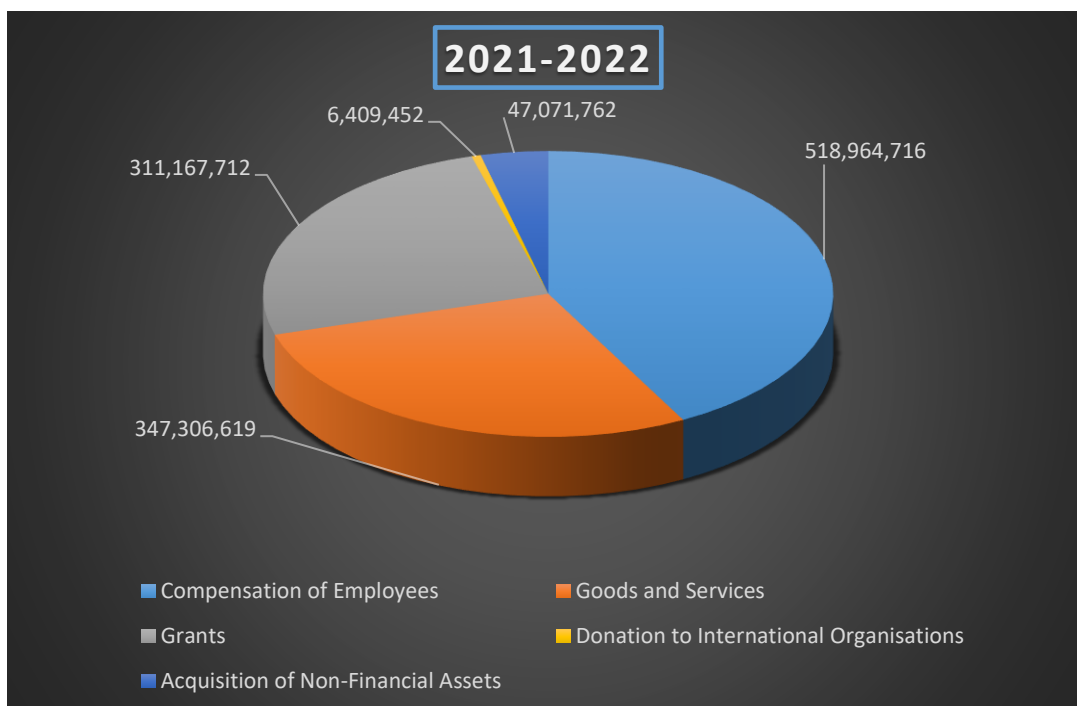
Note:(1) Estimates 2021-22 comprises Reallocation of Funds made during the year including Donation from MOFEPD

Table 4 below shows the total expenditure of all the 3 Sub Heads of the different components and their respective percentage of the total expenditure.

Components	2021-2022 MUR	Percentage (%)
Compensation of Employees	518,964,716	42%
Goods and Services	347,306,619	28%
Grants	311,167,712	25%
Donation to International Organisations	6,409,452	1%
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	47,071,762	4%
Total	1,230,920,261	100%

Table 4 Actual Expenditure 2021-2022

The pie chart below gives a graphical distribution of the expenditure incurred during the last financial year.



PART IV – WAY FORWARD

The Vision 2030 document requires that Mauritius sustainably moves onto a higher growth path and that economic growth be equitably distributed among all the segments of the population.

As a growth enabler the Ministry contributes to the achievement of Government strategic objectives by conducting and coordinating its efforts to further our agenda for the development of Mauritius at regional and international levels, and by leveraging our connections with the world for the socio-economic development of the country.

The Ministry, however, operates in a challenging operational and geopolitical environment. It has finite resources and budgetary constraints. There are constant demands on the Ministry to deliver more efficiently and to maximize its economic and diplomatic reach while at the same time coordinating and consolidating the position of Mauritius on issues of interest and significance on the regional and international scenes.

The regional and global changes have compelled regional organisations to review and reorient their strategies and plans to cater for new priority areas of cooperation such as health, climate change, ocean economy and maritime security. Such changes coupled with the new normal of having virtual meetings as a result of the Covid pandemic are impacting on the Ministry's workload.

Following the comprehensive opening of the Mauritius airspace in July 2022 and lifting of major COVID19 restrictions, the Ministry has been experiencing a steep increase in proposals for hosting of international meetings in Mauritius and consequently, an increase in requests for protocol assistance. The Ministry is increasingly called upon to play a leading role, and adequate human resources and proper infrastructural facilities are required.

In its effort to strengthen economic and trade relations with traditional partners, emerging economies as well as countries on the African Continent, the Ministry has encountered several challenges, while also being presented with various opportunities as outlined below.

Challenges

Global challenges

- the ongoing geopolitical rivalry between U.S/EU/Russia within the context of the war in Ukraine, the rivalry between China and the Quad (India/USA/Australia and Japan);
- A cost-of-living crisis caused by rising inflationary pressures;
- Slowdown of Chinese, UK and EU economies;
- Disruptions in global supply chains and the flow of capital;
- Possibility of serious global food crisis;
- Challenging external environment for emerging and developing countries due to sharp appreciation of the US dollar;
- Long-term impact of the Covid 19 pandemic as well as outbreak of other pandemics;
- Maritime crisis caused by the global economic disruptions whereby shipping lines are skipping port calls, mostly in Small Island Developing States
- High cost of doing business in Africa;
- No visibility on the renewal of AGOA preferences, which are set to expire in 2025;
- Mauritius does not access certain technical assistance or financing opportunities due to its GDP per capita level;
- Protracted Bilateral and Multilateral negotiations arising from deadlocks on certain issues;
- Infrastructural and Institutional inadequacies in Mauritius and other countries to respond in a timely manner in a constantly changing political and economic world environment;
- Lack of adequate skills and financial resources;
- Lack of updated information and data on countries within the region with a view to facilitating contacts;
- Lack of formal high level platforms for bilateral cooperation with majority of countries around the world;
- Vulnerability to climate change and the need to address its adverse impacts;
- Regional political instability and uncertainty due to intra and interstate conflicts with spill-over effects;
- Inadequate involvement and participation of some line Ministries in regional activities;
- Lack of finance from international organizations for project formulation and implementation;

Infrastructural challenges:

- The Ministry has been expanding significantly over the years, both in scope and size, with several divisions being attached to it. However, it is noted that the current building arrangements are no longer appropriate for efficient functioning of the Ministry.
- The Ministry is the front office of the government when dealing with foreign entities and as such it is primordial for Mauritius to project the right image. A proper diplomatic house, with appropriate facilities hosting all these different divisions under one roof, would be more conducive to promote the image of the country, strengthen coherence among the different divisions, and foster esprit de corps.

Strengths

- Political stability and peaceful co-existence in Mauritius;
- Well-developed diplomatic network, covering 55 countries;
- Membership of several regional and international organisations;
- Strong relationship with countries of ancestral linkages;
- Highly-educated, multi-lingual and multi-cultural society.

Opportunities

- Potential for enhanced cooperation to address global crisis;
- Huge market access opportunities on preferential terms on key emerging markets covering 70% of the world population;
- The Industrial Property Act 2019 and the accession of Mauritius to the WIPO-administered treaties (namely the Patent Cooperation Treaty, The Hague Agreement and the Madrid Protocol) would improve the competitiveness of the Mauritian economy and promote investment in high value added activities;
- The reduction of Mauritius dependence on imported fossil fuels and an accelerated transition into the use of renewable energy;
- The proposed setting up of a pharmaceutical and biotechnological industry in Mauritius;
- Other Bilateral Cooperation Agreements under negotiation.

Strategic Direction 2022/2023

Economic driven Diplomacy	
WTO Fisheries Subsidies – Text based negotiations	<p>Acceptance of the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies adopted on 17 June 2022.</p> <p>Ensure that the comprehensive agreement on fisheries subsidies contain adequate flexibilities for SIDS on outstanding issues which are still being negotiated.</p>
Improve trade relations with the EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ To complete negotiations on the deepening of the EPA with the EU to include amongst others, trade in services, investment, intellectual property and sustainable development.
Further improve trade relations with the UK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ to agree on a roadmap with the UK on the deepening of our economic relations
Improve trade relations with SADC countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ To complete negotiations in priority sectors on trade in services including distribution and business services
COMESA - Deepening of collaboration with COMESA countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ To complete outstanding work on trade in services and effectively implement the regulations on NTBs
African Continental Free Trade Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Complete negotiations on African Continental FTA (Market Access, Rules of Origin) ▫ To pursue discussions on outstanding issues and on Phase II issues: e-commerce, Intellectual Property Rights and Investment ▫ Start negotiations on phase II sectors for services ▫ Effective implementation of AfCFTA Agreement through the setting up of National Implementation Committee
Trade Relations with the US	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ To ensure continuity of trade with the US in a post AGOA situation ▫ To reiterate the need for a solution for those AGOA countries, which risk trade disruption due to the graduation clause.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ To pursue lobbying efforts to conclude a FTA with the US
FTA with China	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Operationalisation of the FTA with China ▫ Holding Mauritius-China Joint Commission and follow up on the implementation of the FTA. ▫ Strategise with Mission in Beijing, EDB (on behalf of the private sector), NPPO and Vet Services to maximize on the opportunities under the FTA
Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Develop appropriate marketing strategies ▫ To schedule the second meeting of the High Powered Joint Trade Committee
PTA with Indonesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Third Round of negotiations tentatively scheduled for December 2022. ▫ To finalise outstanding issues on the Rules of Origin text and start negotiations on market access.
FTA with United Arab Emirates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ To deepen trade relations with the UAE including through the conclusion of a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement
Enforcement of the Industrial Property Act 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ The Act entered into force on 31 January 2022. ▫ Work is ongoing to restructure the Industrial Property of Mauritius (IPOM) and to set up the Intellectual Property Council. ▫ Membership of Mauritius to three WIPO-administered Treaties would be effective by February 2023.
Provide a framework to protect the domestic industry in circumstances of increased imports causing injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ To finalise draft Bill on Trade Remedy to be adopted by the National Assembly
Africa and Regional strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Active participation in regional fora to ensure that Mauritius priorities and interests are taken on board ▫ Increase our footprint at regional, continental and international level ▫ Work towards sustainable development through the

		deepening and acceleration of Regional Integration
Promote regional cooperation and integration		<p>Assist in the elaboration of regional projects and mobilisation of funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Coordinate implementation of regional projects ▫ Promote and safeguard the interest of Mauritius in regional fora ▫ Ensure that Mauritius is duly represented in regional organisations and their institutions as well as structures ▫ Facilitate the recruitment of Mauritian Nationals in Regional Organisations
Chagos Archipelago issue		▫ Assist in ensuring the continued support of African countries on the Chagos Archipelago issue.
Strengthening of relations with countries in Africa		▫ Signature of Agreements/MoUs with several African countries
Enhance the political visibility of Mauritius in Africa		▫ Organise and co-ordinate high level meetings
Promote Mauritius as a Centre of Excellence		▫ Facilitate study tours and visits of delegations who wish to learn from the Mauritian experience in various fields including education, ICT, textile, BPO, agro-industry and the manufacturing industry.
Re-engaging bilaterally with countries with whom there has been little or no exchange recently.		▫ Organise bilateral meetings to discuss issues of interest. Assess outstanding issues/bottlenecks and adopt relevant measures for quick wins.
Forging special and strategic partnerships through holding of Joint Commissions with selected countries		▫ Initiate discussions with selected countries
Improve the ease of doing business in the country		▫ Assist in having DTAA's negotiated and signed

Mauritius as a quality higher education hub for African students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Assist in promoting Mauritius as an education hub and assist in attracting more foreign students from Africa
Peace and security on the African continent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Support initiatives aimed at preserving and promoting peace and security in particular in Africa and the Indian Ocean
Economic Driven Diplomacy	
Mauritius as a quality higher education hub for African students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Assist in promoting Mauritius as an education hub and assist in attracting more foreign students from Africa
Peace and security on the African continent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Support initiatives aimed at preserving and promoting peace and security in particular in Africa and the Indian Ocean
Africa Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Co-ordinate with the different stakeholders for a coherent Africa strategy which is more result-oriented and effective.
To facilitate the setting up of a pharmaceutical and biotechnological industry in Mauritius	The hosting of one of the Regional Centre of Regulatory Excellence of the African Medicines Agency by Mauritius.
To meet the Seven AU Agenda 2063 Aspirations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Evaluation of the First Ten Year Implementation Plan (FTYIP) of Agenda 2063. ▫ Formulation of the Second Ten Year Implementation Plan (STYIP) OF Agenda 2063. Note: Mauritius has already appointed a focal person to be part of the technical team that will lead the technical aspects of the FTYIP and STYIP. <p>Performance in the implementation of the Agenda's seven aspirations.</p>

<p>To work towards the election of Mauritius as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for the period 2025-2026 • A member of the UNESCO Executive Board for the period 2023-2027 • Member of the Council of the International Telecommunication Union for the term Oct 2022-Sep 2026 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Endorsement by the AU Member States
<p>To consolidate the existing Africa Strategy of Mauritius</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the optimisation of opportunities with the COMESA, SADC and the AfCFTA, ▪ focus on markets such as Angola, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia and ▪ position Mauritius as a trading platform linking Asia and Africa with the CECPA with India and the FTA with China.
<p>Diplomatic Influence</p>	
<p>Reinforcing existing Bilateral relations with European Countries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reviving of MoUs signed by Mauritius, among others reviving of MoU with the Estonian School of Diplomacy, and explore avenues for sharing of expertise and knowledge between Diplomats of our two Countries and exploring new areas of cooperation in fields of priority to Government. ▪ To organize and pursue Bilateral Consultation (BCM) Mechanisms with European countries such as Estonia, Germany and Czech Republic ▪ To pursue the possibility of opening a German Embassy in Mauritius. ▪ To workout high level official visits to Mauritius by representatives of EU countries ▪ To pursue collaboration with the Czech Republic to develop the financial sector, blue economy, renewable energy and the pharmaceutical sector among others. ▪ Signature of a DTAA between Mauritius and the Czech Republic
<p>Boost Mauritius- Réunion Cooperation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To organize a meeting of <i>Réunion des coordonateurs</i> of the Mauritius-Réunion Joint Commission in 2023 in Mauritius. ▪ To organize the 2nd meeting of the Mauritius-Reunion Joint Commission in Mauritius in 2024

Development of a Pharmaceutical and Vaccine manufacturing Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Soliciting support of specific friendly European countries in a bid to position Mauritius as a pharmaceutical hub in Africa.
Develop Multilateral Cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue our engagement with the European Union (EU) which has evolved within the framework of the OACPS-EU Cotonou Partnership Agreement. ▪ Continue to press the EU to complete its internal procedures to enable the entry into force of the new Post-Cotonou Partnership Agreement (CPA) at the earliest. ▪ To organize on a yearly basis, the Political Dialogue between Mauritius and the EU in compliance to Article 8 of the CPA.